

## PRIVATISING THE MILITARY

In January, the British Ministry of Defence (MoD) announced its plan to utilise corporately employed soldiers, including 80 "sponsored reserves" who will train with the Territorial Army and operate beside regular soldiers in both peacetime and war.

Britain's first private soldiers will be provided by a private consortium headed by Halliburton, a huge US-based transnational corporation whose tentacles into UK services, both civilian and military, have already reached sizeable proportions in areas from nuclear installation to transport infrastructure. The soldiers will owe allegiance only to their employer.

Based in Dallas, Texas, Halliburton commands a 100,000-strong workforce across 120 countries. Its operations and those of its subsidiary, Brown & Root Services, have corporate fingers in a staggering variety of strategically vital global pies from oil pipelines to defence, from road building to embassy security, from servicing armies and nuclear submarines to dismantling Russia's ballistic missiles.

The appointment of Dick Cheney (now US Vice President) as Chairman and CEO of Halliburton in 1995 moved operations up several gears and dramatically increased the corporation's penetration of world markets with gains such as:

- contracts to service the US Army in Bosnia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Hungary



with everything from catering to laundry;

- a contract to increase the security of 150 US embassies.

- contracts for myriad major oil pipelines across the planet;

- a management contract at the atomic physics laboratory at Cern in Switzerland;

- a contract to service Britain's nuclear submarine fleet;

- contracts for RAF aircraft maintenance and to provide air tankers to the RAF;

- contract to design, build, finance and operate a 21-km section of the A1 motorway between Alconbury and Peterborough and a 52-km section of the A417/419 linking the M4 and M5 near Gloucester;

- contract to carry out a multi-modal study responsible for designing a long-

term strategy for orbital transport round London.

In a press release trumpeting its military triumphs in Britain, Halliburton stated that "by outsourcing to private industry...Britain's MoD has been a bellwether for military trends".

As any lexicon will tell you, "bellwether" means "a male sheep that leads the herd". It is transnationals like Halliburton that are now whistling the sheepdog.

(Source: Squall magazine, UK, 25 June 2001, [www.squall.co.uk.yes/ind2.html](http://www.squall.co.uk.yes/ind2.html). Also see "The Bush-Cheney Drug Empire" feature article in NEXUS 8/02.)

## AFRICAN AIDS DIAGNOSIS QUESTIONED

The AIDS crisis in Africa may be misunderstood, because an AIDS diagnosis is seldom verified with actual tests. The conditions accepted as forming the problem of AIDS in the West bear little or no resemblance to that which is called AIDS in Africa.

Recent findings say that approximately 99.2% of Africans don't have classic AIDS symptoms, including 97% of those presumed to be HIV-positive.

Contrary to the Western practice of confirming an AIDS diagnosis with two or more laboratory tests, in Africa AIDS is diagnosed in most instances without laboratory tests.

Based on the World Health Organization definition for African AIDS cases, many Africans are pronounced as AIDS victims if they show the following signs and symptoms: prolonged fever or a persistent cough for more than one month; 10% weight loss in two months; and chronic diarrhoea. These problems are not necessarily rare in many African countries.

Most African people die from symptoms that arise from known and treatable infectious diseases like malaria, pneumonia or diarrhoea as a result of poor hygiene and malnutrition.

Societal illnesses are thus being listed as AIDS—a disease for which the victim is more likely to be blamed—instead of being faced as products of the socio-economic realities of the region.

(Source: Toward Freedom, August 2000; via Project Censored, Sonoma State University, CA, USA, [www.projectcensored.org](http://www.projectcensored.org))



## GPS, OR "GOTTA PAY FOR SPEEDING"

When James Turner signed Acme Rent-A-Car's rental agreement in New Haven, Connecticut, last October, he didn't notice the warning at the top of the contract: "Vehicles in excess of posted speed limit will be charged \$150 fee per occurrence. All our vehicles are GPS [global positioning system] equipped."

He also did not know that his van was equipped with a sophisticated device called AirIQ, manufactured by a Toronto-based, worldwide wireless application service provider.

In addition to providing maps and location tools, AirIQ also allows rental car agents to "manage driver behavior by auditing location information" and "receive boundary crossing and excessive speed reports". An agent can even shut off a car by remote control if it's going too fast or heading into territory it's not supposed to be in.

AirIQ's speed reports cost Turner US\$450 in "fines", and the matter is likely to be in court for some time.

(Sources: Stamford Advocate, Connecticut, USA, 14 June 2001, [www.stamfordadvocate.com](http://www.stamfordadvocate.com); CNN, 1 July 2001)

## DOUBTS OVER CARBON DATING ACCURACY

British and American scientists have found that radiocarbon dating, used to give a rough guide to the age of an object, can be wrong by thousands of years.

It means that humans may have been on Earth for a lot longer than previously thought, and that accepted versions of early history could need a radical rethink.

Experts have known for years that carbon dating is inexact but, until researchers from Bristol and Harvard completed their study, no one knew by how much.

The scientists calculated the age of ancient limestone formations in caves using carbon dating. The results were checked using a newer, more accurate method known as uranium dating.

They found that the carbon dates were wrong by thousands of years and that the further back in time they went, the more out of date they were.

The reason is that carbon dating measures radioactive carbon, and there may have been much more of it in the distant past than previously thought.

(Source: BBC News Online, 29 June 2001)

## HRT HEALTH RISKS OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS

Hormone replacement therapy (HRT) has been promoted for everything from protecting against heart attacks to staving off Alzheimer's disease, but evidence is accumulating that women should not count on HRT. For instance, four randomised clinical trials in the last few years found that HRT actually increased women's risk of heart attacks and strokes during the first year or two.

Even the notion that HRT prevents osteoporosis—the main reason why women older than 60 who no longer have menopausal symptoms are prescribed it—has been questioned by the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in its editorial of 14 June. The comments accompany an analysis of 22 HRT trials by two British researchers who found a reduction in bone fracture risk only in women who started treatment *before* age sixty.

At the same time that HRT's benefits are becoming murkier, the potential risks of long-term therapy—mainly an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancer and blood clots—are becoming more worrisome.

Apparently, though, the latest research about HRT's effects has not trickled down to many doctors who care for postmenopausal women, nor, as a result, to the women themselves. In the North American Menopause Society's most recent survey of women aged 45 to 65, conducted in 1998, 34% of respondents said they were on HRT.

Premarin, the leading brand of oestrogen, remains one of the most widely prescribed drugs in the world, with annual sales totalling nearly US\$2 billion. Last year, Premarin in all its forms was among the top 10 prescription

drugs most heavily marketed to consumers.

(Sources: JAMA, 14 June 2001, <http://jama-asaan.org/>; USA Today, 14 June 2001, [www.usatoday.com/news/](http://www.usatoday.com/news/))

## TRANSGENICS COMPROMISE ORGANICS STANDARDS

That is the gist of declarations by two organic agriculture organisations to describe the effect of transgenic crop production on organic farming. As is the case with conventional soy, corn and canola, organic crops have tested positive for the presence of foreign genetic material because of cross-pollination and seed stock contamination. The inability to segregate transgenic crops from their organic and conventional counterparts during harvest, handling, transport and milling is also responsible for contamination.

The Organic Federation of Australia declared that contamination from transgenic crops in the United States has spread to such a degree that it cannot verify the purity of imported organic ingredients.

Farm Verified Organic seconded that assertion. A press release from the North Dakota certification agency stated: "...the GM pollution of American commodities is now so pervasive, we believe it is not possible for farmers in North America to



source seed free from it."

According to the November 2000 edition of *Farmindustrynews.com*: "The widespread adoption of GM crops in the US makes it difficult to ensure that grain is not being contaminated with genetically modified organisms (GMOs) as it is handled and transported from the field to the end customer. Industry insiders even question whether the foundation (parent) seed for non-GM varieties can meet a 1% purity level."

But one should remember that organic standards have to do with production, not purity, said Annie Kirschenmann, of Farm Verified Organic. This means that testing for any kind of residue, be it from pesticide or genetic drift, is not part of determining whether to certify a farm as organic.

(Source: *Cropchoice News*, 1 May 2001, [www.cropchoice.com/](http://www.cropchoice.com/))

## MICROCHIPS TO MONITOR PAPER MONEY – AND PEOPLE

Hitachi has developed a microchip that could be woven into paper money to help identify counterfeit notes. However, the chip could also have widespread ramifications for identification and surveillance technologies.

The chip, called Mew, measures just 0.4 millimetres on a side and stores basic information such as identification and security codes. It is capable of 128 bits of read-only memory (ROM) and RF wireless circuitry that allows it to transmit over a distance of about 30 centimetres. When inserted into money, a reader unit is instantly able to identify authentic bills.

While the chip currently requires a read-

er unit for it to work, its small size carries big implications for the future of identity technology. Chips could be implanted into all currency notes and be connected wirelessly to the Internet, so that authorities would be able to monitor the movement of all cash. Such chips could also be embedded in other consumer products to track them in the event of theft.

Hitachi says it is considering adding rewritable memory to the device.

(Source: *ZDNet*, 3 July 2001, <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/story/0,,s2090580,00.html>)

## FACING UP TO SURVEILLANCE

The Tampa, Florida, Police Department has begun using software that allows people's faces, captured on video cameras, to be compared against a database of wanted criminals and sex offenders.

The software, called Face-It, is linked to dozens of cameras throughout the city's nightlife district. It can instantly capture the images of up to four to eight people and compare those images to a computer database, based on 80 points of a person's face in an area encompassing the eyes and nose.

The Tampa Police Department is the first in the United States to adopt the system, and already others are lining up.

Virginia Beach, Virginia, has used closed-circuit TV cameras to watch the oceanfront from the 2nd Police Precinct since 1993, largely for checking traffic and observing crowds. The local police propose to link existing cameras to the software and monitor images of people as they stroll along the oceanfront.

And in Colorado, the Department of Motor Vehicles, in an effort to prevent

identity theft and driver's licence fraud, is buying cameras that will map every driver's facial characteristics like a three-dimensional land chart.

Old driver's licence photos will be scanned into a computer database using the new technology. New mug-shots will be compared with those on file to make sure people are who they say they are when they go to get, or renew, a Colorado driver's licence.

Private industries, such as casinos and check-cashing businesses, have quietly used face-recognition technology for years, but the software garnered nationwide attention when it was used on more than 100,000 faces at turnstiles at the Super Bowl (dubbed "Snooper Bowl") last year without people's knowledge, though no arrests were made.

(Sources: *St Petersburg Times*, 2 July 2001, [www.sptimes.com/](http://www.sptimes.com/); *The Virginian-Pilot*, 6 June 2001; *Denver Post*, 7 July 2001)

## THE PROMISE OF SOCIAL INSECURITY

A remarkable slip of the tongue was made by US Secretary of State Colin Powell on Fox News on Sunday 17 June.

Mr Powell was discussing President George W. Bush's trip to Europe, and was at a point in his recitation where he was covering certain concerns regarding Russia, and the request for Russia to cooperate with the United States to track down lost nuclear materials and scientists still unaccounted for after the break-up of the USSR and that now may be in the hands of adversaries of the USA—or, in the case of the missing scientists, working for its adversaries.

"Finding the Russian scientists may be a problem, being that Russia does not have a Social Security system— as here in America that allows us to monitor, track down and capture an American citizen."

When he realised the consequences of making this disclosure to the American public, he froze for a second, rolled back his eyes at what he had said, and then he continued without further pause for the rest of the interview.

(Source: via *Sightings web site*, <http://www.sightings.com>)



## NO PLACE TO HIDE FROM STATE-OF-THE ART SATELLITES

Unknown to most of the world, satellites can perform astonishing and often menacing feats. This should come as no surprise when one reflects on the massive effort poured into satellite technology since the Soviet satellite *Sputnik*, launched in 1957, caused panic in the US.

A spy satellite can monitor a person's every movement, even when the "target" is indoors or deep in the interior of a building or travelling rapidly down a highway in a car, in any kind of weather (cloudy, rainy, stormy).

There is no place to hide on the face of the Earth. It takes just three satellites to blanket the world with detection capacity. Besides tracking a person's every action and relaying the data to a computer screen on Earth, the amazing powers of satellites include being able to read a person's mind, monitor conversations, manipulate electronic instruments and physically assault someone with a laser beam.

(Source: Pravda, 14 July 2001, <http://english.pravda.ru/main/2001/07/11/9825.html>. This is a remarkable article that should read in its entirety. Ed.)

## NEW HAGUE RULING WILL RESTRICT INTERNET FREEDOM

In June this year, the Hague Conference on Private International Law met on a new treaty to set the rules for jurisdiction for nearly all commercial and civil litigation.

This proposed new treaty imposes a bold set of rules that will profoundly change the Internet by extending the reach of every country's intellectual property laws. With a blanket of overlapping jurisdictional claims, it exposes every website publisher to liabilities for libel, defamation and other speech offences from virtually any country, and strip Internet service providers of protections from litigation over the content they carry.

If adopted, it will reduce Internet freedom, shrink the public domain and diminish national sovereignty. And practically no one knows anything about the treaty.

The Hague Conference on Private International Law is a little-known organization that held its first meeting in 1893, but did not have permanent status until 1951.

(Source: Consumer Project on Technology, June 2001, [www.cptech.org](http://www.cptech.org))

## "MYCOPLASMA VISNA": THE SCIENTIFIC NAME OF AIDS

by Boyd E. Graves, BS, JD

On August 21, 1999 in Ganonoque, Canada, [I] presented a 1971 aids flowchart to the international medical and scientific community. The flow chart is the "Research Logic Flow" of an ultra-secret federal program entitled "Special Virus". Since then, the flowchart has continued to receive intense scrutiny, with many scientists and medical doctors now going on record to confirm the diabolical nature of the "Special Virus" program.

The "Special Virus" is the designer product of a century-long hunt for a contagious cancer that will selectively kill. The "necessity" for the creation and deployment of AIDS *et al.* is fully outlined in US population control policy decisions including National Security Study Memorandum 200 (NSSM-200) 1974, written and presented by Henry Kissinger at the mega-conference on population control held in Bucharest, Romania.

We continue to meet our detractors with endless citations from their own scientific and medical journals. We continue to see and hear from fewer and fewer of them and note that none has signed our petition. We believe that, through our call for review of the Special Virus program, the American people and the people of the world have their best chance to completely understand the truth regarding the ethnic biological landscape of humanity.

We sincerely believe that the US AIDS databases should contain the databases of the US Special Virus program. We also believe that the serum repositories affiliated with the Special Virus program should be reviewed to pinpoint the introduction of "junk DNA" into the human genome.

We have found the federal virus program that made AIDS. AIDS is in actuality a *Mycoplasma* (a tiny cell with no walls) that has a visna lentivirus (sheep disease) insertion. The documentation of the visna evolution in the etiology of AIDS is located in the *Proceedings of the United States of America at PNAS* 1995 April 11; 92:3283-87.

We have a citation that even Brian Foley's supercomputers in Los Alamos could simply not get around (see Sonigo, P. et al., "Nucleotide Sequence of the Visna Lentivirus: Relationship to the AIDS Virus", *Cell* 1985 Aug; 42(1):369-82). Additionally, in 1995, the Israeli government confirmed that "mycoplasmas regulate the heart of HIV" (see *FEMS Microbiol. Lett.* 1995;128:63-68). Neither of these papers has been renounced and, quite the contrary, greater scientific relevance continues to build in light of the discovery of the 1971 flow chart document.

The 1971 AIDS flowchart document allows for a technological, workman-like review of the 15 progress reports of the federal virus development program. We believe we are entitled to a full review of all research, documents, experiments, symposiums, conferences and faxes and computer records regarding the June 9, 1969 congressional testimony of Dr Donald MacArthur of the Pentagon. Dr MacArthur's testimony is archived as a portion of US House Resolution 15090, Part VI.

We believe Dr MacArthur's testimony provides an additional missing link in the true laboratory birth of AIDS. Specifically, on page 121, Dr MacArthur concedes, "to keep the record straight", that the Department of Defense (contrary to DoD policy) had been "experimenting on synthetic biological agents that would lead to worldwide scourge and Black Death-type plague in "certain geographical areas" and regions of the world".

It is our position that a review of these specific experiments will further assist our collective understanding of the "Special Operations-X" program, which began by US appropriation in 1957. The comb to vanquish the black race has many teeth.

We conclude that, since visna (prior to HIV) had never before been seen in human disease according to the United States authorities, this peculiar homology alone proves the laboratory birth of the mycoplasma visna—the US hybrid chimera virus, AIDS.

We conclude that a review of the 1971 flowchart and the 15 progress reports of the US Special Virus program will definitively answer every question with regard to the origin of AIDS (mycoplasma combined with visna lentivirus) and its errant purpose.

(Source: Boyd E. Graves, BS, JD, 7 March 2001 [Day 97 of World War AIDS], <http://www.boydgraves.com>. Also see Donald W. Scott's article, "The Linking Pathogen in Neurosystemic Diseases", in this issue.)